

## NEW LAWS ARE URGED TO STOP RAIL STRIKES

National Council of Chamber of Commerce Meets to Consider Proper Legislation.

### INTERESTS OF PUBLIC FIRST

Dr. Charles R. Van Hise Tells Body People Must Be Safeguarded in Labor Disputes.

With the danger of a great railroad strike once more apparent, with the roads fighting the Adamson law in the courts, the Department of Justice and the Administration preparing to back up the law, and a special committee of Congress about to probe, exceptional interest today attached to proceedings of the National Council of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, which is meeting at the New Willard to consider how to prevent railroad strikes and what further railroad legislation should be enacted.

"The public interest is paramount," was the vigorous declaration of Dr. Charles R. Van Hise, of the University of Wisconsin, in discussing the Adamson law and the railroad strike question. He was warmly applauded by the several hundred business men present.

Judge Adamson told the council that Congress has no constitutional power to control all operations of railroads and Charles R. Van Hise stated the situation when he remarked, "we must not let the railroad brotherhoods hold up the people of the United States with threats to strike whenever a demand is denied them."

**Public Interest Paramount.**  
Dr. Van Hise not only declared the public interest is paramount, but he made it plain that he felt there must be important legislation enacted to protect the public. He doubted whether compulsory arbitration was practicable under the Constitution, and he urged the passage of a law along the lines of the Canadian arbitrator act for public investigation of strikes or lockouts meaning time prohibited.

That the logic of the situation points squarely to Government regulation of wages as well as Government regulation of the roads was the view of Dr. Van Hise.

**Condemns Surrender.**  
He condemned the surrender of the Government to the brotherhoods involved in the passage of the Adamson measure, declared what happened brought the blush of shame to his cheek, pointed out that the public had to bear the burden of increased cost of the law, whether it proved just or unjust, and asserted that, having won in this instance, the brotherhoods would probably make other demands under threat of strike as another election drew near.

Implicitly, Dr. Van Hise's address was a sharp condemnation of the course of President Wilson and Congress in what has occurred in various colors the sufferings of the public under general railroad strike, and emphasized his view that the public interest in keeping the railroads in operation is supreme, above the interests either of managers or employees.

**Utterances Significant.**  
Dr. Van Hise's utterances were the more significant because he is the head of a Western university which is acknowledged to be one of the most advanced in progressive thought, and because he has been close to Senator La Follette and other progressive men in Wisconsin in promoting legislation for vigorous public control of public utilities.

The meeting of the national council of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States today was called together to consider railroad regulation. (Continued on Fourth Page.)

## BROTHERHOOD CHIEFS SCOUT STRIKE TALK

Look to President for Aid if Eight-Hour Law is Killed.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Nov. 17.—Conceding that should the Adamson eight-hour law fail, President Wilson will provide another measure which will insure trainmen an eight-hour day, heads of the various brotherhoods here today scouted the possibility of a general strike in January.

Warren S. Stone, head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, said that if the Adamson eight-hour law was knocked out trainmen looked to President Wilson for an effective substitute.

Possibilities that the strike vote taken last summer would not hold good for a strike in January loomed up today, and brotherhood officials said this question would have to be determined at a meeting to be held in Washington on Monday.

W. B. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, and George H. Sines, vice president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, both doubt the possibility of a strike.

"A railroad strike is a remote possibility," said Sines.

William A. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, alone refused to comment on the situation.

## Northern Pacific Boosts Pay of Road's Employees

ST. PAUL, Minn., Nov. 17.—Northern Pacific employees drawing less than \$200 a month will get \$5 to \$10 more, starting next month, the road officials voluntarily announced today.

The high cost of living employees' committee was assigned as the reason for the increase.

## Proclamation Issued For Thanksgiving Day

President, in Manifesto, Asks America to Contribute "Out of Our Abundant Means" to Relief of War Sufferers.

America was asked today by President Wilson in his Thanksgiving proclamation, to "contribute out of our abundant means" to the relief of the inhabitants of the belligerent countries of Europe, "upon whom the curse and terror of war are so pitilessly fallen."

Setting Thursday, November 30, as the date for Thanksgiving Day, the proclamation is as follows:

It has long been the custom of our people to turn, in the fruitful autumn of the year, in praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many blessings and mercies to us as a nation. The year that has elapsed since we last observed our day of thanksgiving has been a year of peace and of a people, but the whole face of the world has been darkened by war.

In the midst of our peace and happiness, our thoughts dwell with painful disquiet upon the struggles and sufferings of nations at war, and of the peoples upon whom war has brought disaster without choice or possibility of escape on their part.

We cannot think of our own happiness without thinking also of their pitiful distress.

Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, do appoint Thursday, the thirtieth day of November, as a day of national thanksgiving and prayer, and urge and advise the people to resort to their several places of worship on that day to render thanks to Almighty God for the blessings of peace and unbroken prosperity which He has bestowed

upon our beloved country in such unexampled measure.

And I also urge and suggest our duty in this, our day of peace and abundance, to think in deep sympathy of the peoples of the world upon whom the curse and terror of war are so pitilessly fallen, and to contribute out of our abundant means to the relief of their sufferings.

Our people could, in no better way, show their real attitude toward the present struggle of the nations, than by contributing out of their abundance and of the abundance of the sufferings which war has brought in its train.

Done at the city of Washington, this seventeenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixteen, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and forty-first.

WOODROW WILSON.

(Seal)

By the President,  
ROBERT LANSING,  
Secretary of State.

## POLICE BAFFLED IN THUG HOLD-UP CASES

Without a Single Clue to Work Upon—Suspect To Be Released.

Without a single clue to work on, the police have abandoned practically all hope of catching the thugs who attacked Mrs. Anna M. Scherer, a nurse, in Kalorama road, near Connecticut avenue northwest, Monday night, and Alice Tighman, a colored domestic, near Thirtieth and Porter streets northwest, Wednesday.

Central Office detectives have redoubled their efforts, however, to run down the two hold-up men who got \$50 from Mrs. Scherer, and \$200 from Alice Tighman, in their grocer's store at 1300 F and half street southwest Sunday night.

"In the cases of both women," said Inspector Grant, this morning, "we have absolutely nothing to work on. Neither of them was able to describe the man who attacked her. We are exerting every effort, however, to get the two white men who did the first two jobs."

The police have been unable to get anything upon which to base a case against the second negro arrested on suspicion in the Scherer case Wednesday night, and he probably will be released today.

Dr. H. H. Hawshyatt, attending Mrs. Scherer, who is at Homeopathic Hospital, said this morning her condition was very satisfactory, and that he believed she would be able to leave the hospital in a week.

## CLERKS ASK WILSON FOR PENSION BILL

Petition President to Urge Measure at Next Congress.

Government workers in Washington have petitioned President Wilson to urge upon Congress passage of a civil service pension measure at the coming session.

Resolutions prepared by a large association active in agitation for retirement legislation have been received at the White House.

Various resolutions have been working for aid of all organizations of Government clerks, but to their mass meeting in January, at which they hope to make a strong appeal for pension legislation.

Leaders in the movement feel hopeful that President Wilson will include some mention of pension legislation in his message, because of the considerable attitude toward it of a majority of his Cabinet members.

## FUEL-LIGHT ECONOMY URGED FOR FRENCH

PARIS, Nov. 17.—Louis Malvy, minister of the interior, has instructed the prefects of every department in France to appeal for co-operation of the people with mayors of the communes to reduce as far as possible the lighting of their homes and business establishments.

Bills posted throughout Paris and signed by the officials invite every householder to restrict both heating and lighting. The poster concludes: "It is hoped that these demands will be manfully accepted in view of the need of seconding the efforts of our soldiers in the trenches. It is the duty of the people in the rear to add to the force of the armies. The whole of France must fight."

## Austrian Aviators Shell Three Towns on Isonzo

BERLIN (via Tuckerton wireless), Nov. 17.—Bombardment of Ronchi, Dobrovo, and Vermeilano, held by Italians, by Austrian hydro-aeroplanes was announced today in the Austro-Hungarian official statements made public here.

The attack was made in the early morning of November 14 and was "most successful," according to the statement.

## 8 CAR LOADS OF COAL COME IN: CRISIS PASSING

Fuel Situation Better Than It Has Been for Weeks, Say Officials.

### CLIMAX CAME YESTERDAY

One Apartment House Unable to Furnish Heat Until 10 o'Clock in Morning.

The coal situation in Washington today was brighter than it has been in several weeks.

This improvement was indicated by the arrival of six car loads of soft coal for delivery to Government departments, and by two more car loads for the District building and the schools.

That the situation would be better: from apartments and office buildings were further encouraged by the fact that the Bureau's prediction of warmer weather tonight and tomorrow.

The coal shortage in Washington, it became known today, reached its climax yesterday. One apartment house was unable to furnish any heat until 10 o'clock arrived at dusk yesterday morning.

**Dwellers Shivered.**  
Meanwhile the apartment dwellers shivered in the coldest morning of the season, and led the rental agent merry chase by telephones and personal calls.

With the delivery to the Federal and District government offices of enough coal to tide them over the rest of the week, the contractors gave assurance Government officials and managers of more coal.

These contractors said they had information from the mines that more coal would be shipped, and from the railroad companies that shipments would be expedited.

M. C. Hargrove, purchasing officer of the Treasury, said today he had been told that it is probable that from six to eight cars daily for use of the schools might be coming in shortly.

James L. Wilmet, chief clerk of the Treasury, said that he had been informed that more coal might be expected from now on.

**More Cars in Transit.**  
Several more cars are in transit with coal, which will be delivered to the schools as soon as it arrives.

Some dealers report that they have cars on the way, but that they have been delayed in shipment.

Coal dealers remained reticent today in the face of the better conditions. They have decided, by common agreement, not to ask for more of the shortage of coal, and they preserved this attitude, even with more coal arriving.

Mr. Hargrove hopes to receive by this evening reports on an inventory of coal being taken of the amount of coal at each school building. Enough coal is on hand now so that no more transfers need be made for a time.

The 152 storages that reported holdings November 1 of this year, and last year a present stock of 2,794,295 cases as compared with 3,688,533 cases last year, a difference of 894,238 cases, or 24.2 per cent.

**Works in "Vicious Circle."**  
This same property works in a "vicious circle" for it is regarded as a contributory factor in the lessened supply and the consequent high price.

Because higher wages have resulted in a greater consumption of eggs than usual in this country, in addition to the greater shipments abroad.

Shipment of eggs for the first eight months of this year were worth \$3,450,000, while the egg exports for the same period in 1914 amounted to but \$2,177,000.

In conjunction with this, the United States Department of Agriculture reports that the higher egg prices which cases of eggs, as compared with 4,585,593 in 217 storages on October 1.

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## UNIVERSAL TRANSFER HEARING IS PLANNED

Meeting to Follow Sessions on Property Valuations.

Following the hearings on the valuation of the Capital Traction Company and Washington Railway and Electric Company properties, a public hearing will be held by the Public Utilities Commission on the universal transfer question.

The conclusion reached by the commission following the hearing on universal transfers on October 20, 1913, was that it is a rate question. The public utilities law provides that upon its own initiative or upon "reasonable complaint" made against a public utility which any of its rates are unreasonable or unjustly discriminatory, the commission may investigate, but that no order affecting rates shall be entered without a formal hearing.

Conrad H. Syme, general counsel for the commission is understood to agree with the opinion of his predecessor, the late E. H. Thomas, that the act of 1914 providing for reciprocal transfers between the Metropolitan Railway, now a part of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, and connecting lines cannot be construed as requiring universal transfers.

It is upon this act the Federation of Citizens' Associations bases its petition for the issuance of a universal transfer order.

## COLONEL ROOSEVELT TO VISIT FIJI ISLANDS

Plans to Take Two Months Vacation Beginning in February.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—Although the Fiji's and the Polynesian's of Samoa, don't know it yet, their respective islands are due for a tilt, and the South Pacific is due for somewhat of a splash, so to speak, next February—T. R. is going to visit 'em.

It is understood that this trip is to conclude the Colonel's vacation after the campaign labors he undertook in the interests of Charles E. Hughes, Mrs. Roosevelt will accompany the Colonel. Roosevelt chose Samoa and the Fiji Islands because they are both highly spoken of by physicians as above the average in climate, and too because Roosevelt believes they will afford him a good playground for the rather arduous vacations he generally takes.

The Colonel plans to start about February 1. He hasn't decided yet whether to go through the Panama Canal or across the continent to San Francisco for his start. He will be gone probably two months.

## Poor Board Threatens To Seize Election Bets

SUNBURY, Pa., Nov. 17.—More than \$2,000 bet on the Wilson-Hughes fight is in jeopardy here over a threat of the poor directors to attach the money and take it for poor purposes. It is said a large sum of money has been bet on the Wilson-Hughes fight, and the directors of the poor board are being pulled among politicians to prevent the threatened raid and exposure of the bettors, some of whom are prominent in business and social affairs.

## Lynching Rumors Cause Negro's Secret Removal

FREDERICK, Md., Nov. 17.—With rumors of the formation of "lynching parties" circulating throughout the county like wildfire, and after the negro had been held without bail for the action of the February court, Clayton Crampton, seventeen, was removed to the Baltimore jail last night.

Crampton is charged with assaulting Anna Mary Wagner, the four-year-old daughter of John W. Wagner, of Baltimore.

He was taken from the local jail in a closed automobile, and was well on his way to Baltimore when his removal was learned.

## Commander of U-Liner, Damaged in Smash



CAPT. PAUL KOENIG.

## EGG EXPORTS GO UP; SUPPLY GOES DOWN

And Price Keeps on Rising as Demand Here and Abroad Continues to Grow.

The United States is shipping more eggs than ever before to Europe.

There are nearly a fourth less eggs in cold storage now than there were a year ago.

The price of eggs is unusually high for this season. Sixty cents was the retail price today for fresh eggs.

In the face of these conditions the demand for eggs continues unabated.

This combination of circumstances, many dealers freely predict, will bring "egg-crazy" by Thanksgiving.

The persistent demand for eggs, in the face of the higher prices, is attributed to the prosperity of the country.

## TO DISCUSS PLAN TO RESTRICT BUILDING

Matter to Be Taken Up by Mt. Pleasant Citizens' Association.

The proposal to restrict the building of business structures in the residential sections of the city will be taken up tomorrow night by the Mt. Pleasant Citizens' Association at Brown Betty Inn, Sixteenth street and Park road.

The Board of Commissioners will come in for considerable discussion. The report of the Caldwell committee on the municipal garbage disposal plant will also be considered.

## Munitions Manufacture Army Board Is Appointed

The War Department announced today the following board to investigate the advisability of complete Government manufacture of munitions:

Colonel Kernan, Twenty-eighth Infantry; Lieutenant Sumner, Field Artillery; Major Fuller, Benedict Crowell, Cleveland; R. G. Rhett, Charleston, S. C.

## Cotton Sells at 21 Cents For First Time Since '61

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—Cotton sold at 21 cents today for the first time since the civil war when May delivery touched that figure.

## U-LINER SINKS TUG AND KILLS FIVE; RETURNS TO PORT

Attempted Dash to Sea by Deutschland Ends in Collision With Boat in Her Convoy. Submarine Not Badly Hurt.

### RUMOR OF ATTACK ON FREIGHTER

Story of Mysterious Craft's Attempt to Ram Submersible, However, Finds No Confirmation at Pier in New London.

NEW LONDON, Nov. 17.—An attempted dash to sea by the German merchant submarine Deutschland ended early today in a collision between the super-submersible and an escorting tug, in which Captain Gurney and four members of the tug's crew were drowned.

The Deutschland, bound for Bremen, put back to port immediately after the collision, and by 5 o'clock this morning was again warped into her pier. She was once more shielded by the liner Willehad, her "mother ship," and the big steel net was swung into place to further guard her.

Late this morning a report was circulated that a mysterious motorboat tried to ram the Deutschland, and that, in attempting to protect the submarine, the tug swung directly in the path of the undersea freighter.

**RUMOR NOT CONFIRMED.**  
Inquiry at the pier of the Eastern Forwarding Company, where the Deutschland again rests, brought no confirmation of the rumor, however.

Work was immediately begun by a small army of workmen to learn the extent of the submersible's damage as a result of her second collision during the present trip. She smashed into a pier when she made her start from Bremen, and was held up ten days for repairs.

The tug S. A. Scott, Jr., is said to have attempted to cross the Deutschland's bows while the Scott boats and the tug Cassie, Edward Stone, fireman, Eugene Duzant, deckhand, and Clarence Davison, cook.

## ALLIES ENGULFING BULGAR FORTRESS

Monastir, Flanked by Sarraï's Army, Must Soon Surrender, Says London.

LONDON, Nov. 17.—Fall of Monastir within a few days was confidently predicted here today with receipt of fresh news of the victorious progress toward the Macedonian city of French, Italian, Russian, and Serbian forces. Fighting through snow, sleet, and mud, the four allies have impetuously swung twice in flanking movements of gigantic magnitude and have a vice-like grip on the Monastir neighborhood.

General Sarraï refused to be drawn into attacking the Bulgarian defenses to the south of Monastir—defenses which Sofia some time ago pronounced impregnable—and according to all reports which reach here, has forced retirement of the Bulgarian-Turkish defenders from these positions without their having struck a blow, by the threat of strong enveloping movement.

**Would Be Blow to Bulgaria.**  
The fall of Monastir will be a distinct blow at Bulgarian pride, and experts here predicted another appeal from Sofia for German assistance in retaking the city. Its natural importance is not great, but Bulgaria apparently attaches sentimental value to holding of the city.

An immediate effect of the allies' advance, it was expected, would be relief from General von Falkenhayn's forward movement into Roumania. Military observers believe some of his forces will be diverted to render assistance to the retreating Bulgarians north of Monastir.

Just now Roumania is feeling the effect of this strong movement southward of the Teutonic forces, von Falkenhayn having crossed the Carpathians.

(Continued on Second Page.)

## HIGH PRICES DRIVE OUT 1,500 BAKERIES

War Has Had Disastrous Effect on Industry.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—More than 1,500 bakeries have been closed throughout the United States since August 1 and others are daily going out of business as the result of the soaring prices of grain, flour and other commodities used in baking.

This announcement was made today by J. M. Bell, general secretary of the National Association of Master Bakers of America, on his return to Chicago from a meeting of the executive board of the association in Memphis, Tenn., at which the high cost of living problem was the topic.

Mr. Bell said:

"While the consumer bears the heavy burden, the fact is now known in business circles that present conditions are putting a large number of establishments dealing in food commodities out of business."

"This is true not only in the bakery business, but in many other lines of food supplies. While the war has seemed to help some industries the baking and other food trades have been steadily receiving blows, which, if they continue, will have a permanent disastrous effect."

## Running on Surface.

The Deutschland was running on the surface at the time of the accident. While there was no heavy sea, the current, according to the Coast Guard, was unusually strong. Because of this and the inky darkness, the Deutschland's lookout did not see the Scott quickly enough to sound an alarm.

As lights that had been extinguished were shaded in order to make escape for the Deutschland easier. This added to the difficulty in keeping the distance between the boats.

The race is about five miles due south of the Thames mouth.

## Rumors Are Revived.

As the big boat went out today rumors again were revived regarding a possible lightning submarine escort for her. The fact that the boat's departure appeared to have been suddenly decided upon led to belief that Captain Koenig had received word that the submarine cruiser had appeared off the coast and was awaiting the merchantman.

Several thousand gallons of oil were put aboard early last night. It had been brought in a hurry from Palmer, Mass., by special train.

Eastern Forwarding Company officials refused to treat seriously apprehension of a man, dressed as a laborer,